

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO AMEMBASSY SANAA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL MILAN PRIORITY

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S E C R E T KUWAIT 3026

EXDIS

MILAN FOR AMB CRAWFORD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT YE SA

SUBJ: PRESIDENT IRYANI'S RESIGNATION

REF: SANAA 1584 (NOTAL), B) SANAA 1568

1. REFTEL NOT RECEIVED UNTIL OPENING OF BUSINESS AUG 21, BUT I SAY NU'MAN AT HILTON HOTEL AFTERNOON AUG 20. MOST OF TIME I WAS WITH HIM HE WAS ON TELEPHONE TO HUSSEIN AL-MASWARI AND ABDULLAH AL-ASNAG. ONE OF SUBJECTS WAS IRYANI, SO I THINK ASNAG IS NOW PRETTY WELL FILLED IN ON LATEST NU'MAN HAS ON YEMENI PRES. FOLLOWING IS WHAT I GATHERED FROM NU'MAN'S DOUBLE TALK IN ARABIC OVER PHONE AND OUR VERY BRIEF SUBSEQUENT CHAT.

2. ALGAAHMARG'S MISSION TO SYRIA (IRYANI WAS APPARENTLY IN LATAKIA) TO TRY CONVINCE IRYANI NOT RESIGN WAS A FAILURE. IRYANI STILL INSISTING HE WILL NOT WITHDRAW HIS RESIGNATION.

3. NU'MAN'S DESCRIPTION OF IRYANI'S FRUSTRATIONS WAS ALONG LINES PARAS 3-5 REF B. NU'MAN SAID SAUDI AMB SUDAIRI SPOKE IN FRIENDLY SOOTHING FASHION TO YEMENI PRESIDENT HIMSELF, BUT IRYANI GETTING STORIES FROM ALL OVER TOWN OF STRONGLY CRITICAL COMMENTS MADE
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ABOUT HIM BY SAUDI AMB. NU'MAN SAID SAG SHOULD SOMEHOW BE CONVINCED

RECALL SUDAIRI AND HE GOING TO SAUDI ARABIA TO TAKE MATTER UP HIMSELF WITH PRINCES FAHAD AND/OR SULTAN. MUCH MORE IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, NU'MAN ADDED, HE WOULD TRY CONVINCE SAUDIS THAT EVEN IF VIRYANI DID NOT SPOUT KORAN AS MUCH AS THEY WOULD LIKE, IT VERY MUCH IN INTEREST SAUDI ARABIA AS WELL AS YARG THAT IRYANI REMAIN AS PRESIDENT.

4. NU'MAN SAID IRYANI FEELS HIMSELF VERY MUCH BETWIXT AND BETWEEN. HE NOT "RELIGIOUS" ENOUGH FOR SAUDIS AND NOT REVOLUTIONARY ENOUGH FOR LEFTISTS AND THEREFORE VULNERABLE TO SOUTH YEMENI ACTIVIES AGAINST HIM AS WELL.

5. DESPITE ALL OF FOREGOING, HOWEVER, NU'MAN LEFT ME WITH IMPRESSION HE CLINGS TO HOPE IRYANI CAN BE PERSUADED WITHDRAW HIS RESIGANTION. HE PLEADED FOR ANY US ASSISTANCE IN CONVINCING SAUDIS THAT IRYANI SHOULD REMAIN IN OFFICE. IN ANSWER MY QUESTION, HE OPINED AL-AMRI WOULD IN ANY CASE NOT BE WELCOME BACK IN YEMEN.
STOLTZFUS

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